

the alarm at the Yankee capitol; the rejoicing in Baltimore, the flight from Harrisburg and other towns within easy striking distance! One hundred men on horseback are far more terrifying than five hundred on foot. Imagine, then, the terror certain to be inspired by this magnificent column, or series of columns moving upon forty roads, forty miles a day, covering the country like a swarm of locusts, burning bridges, railway stations, courthouses and all manner of public property,—cutting every line of communication between Washington and the North, if not actually forcing the evacuation of that city, because the Federal troops would be so scattered by the need of defending a hundred threatened points, that a dash of Confederate infantry might capture the City.

Such a foray would not only “pay its own expenses” but might levy millions of dollars of ransom fees on rich Abolition war howlers.

Such a foray would pick up ten thousand recruits from the rich young men of the Border States. And the losses would be small, as it would be the true policy to avoid fighting, and fortified towns,—keeping constantly in view the one object of covering as much territory as possible and causing the greatest amount of alarm, damage and distress; in short “carrying the war into Africa,” and teaching the Africanistic Yankees some of the real evils of the fire and sword they were hurling upon our soil!

“But,” says Lieutenant Thumade, to whom I have been talking,—“such a course would have been contrary to our policy. Besides, it would have fired the Northern heart and utterly wiped out the Northern Peace party.”

Ah, yes! the Northern peace party! Fatal figment of our credulity! Twin *Ignis fatuus* of our hopes of foreign recognition, and English sympathy! How mockingly have they flitted before us through all these years of our vain wanderings through the slough of Despond. But for them we should have waged a war of Revolution,—a desperate “rough and tumble” struggle for freedom,—instead of putting on the hollow forms and pursuing the methods of red tape, scientific, military chess-playing!